

**Amendments to the Specification:**

At page 1, please replace the sentence on lines 8-10 with the following amended sentence:

This is a continuation of application U.S. Serial No. 10/314,645, filed on December 9, 2002, which is a divisional application of application U.S. Serial No. 09/665,650, filed on September 20, 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,525,291, which claims the benefit of and priority to and incorporates herein by reference in its entirety U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/155,078, filed September 21, 1999, entitled Process and Apparatus For Cutting Or Welding A Workpiece, the entire disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.